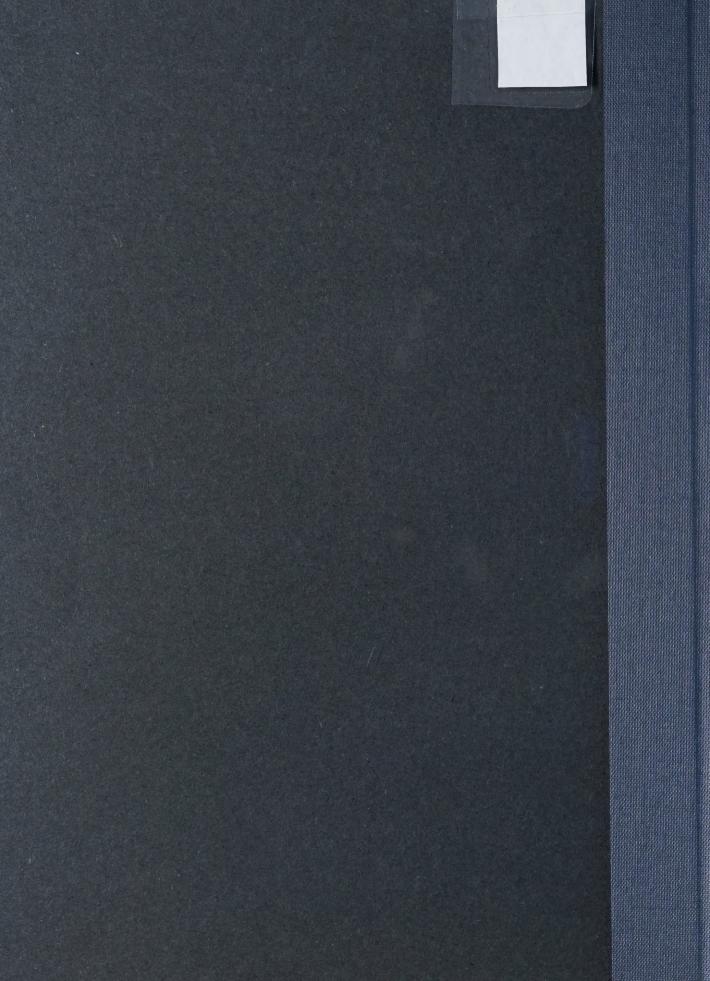


# Country Profile Thailand

**Canadä** 

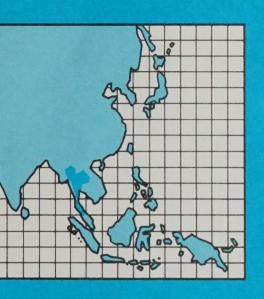


Canadian International Development Agency

Agence canadienne de développement international

CAI EA 83 -85731







# Country Profile Thailand

**Canadä** 

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#### COUNTRY PROFILE

Official	Name
Capital	
Topograph	у

Climate
Principal crops
Resources
Official Language
Other languages spoken

Religions

Ethnic groups

Date of Independence

Kingdom of Thailand

Bangkok

fertile central plain, riverine north, south

peninsula, northeastern plateau tropical, dominated by monsoons

rice, maize, rubber, tapioca, sugar cane tin, natural gas, petroleum, tourism

Thai

Teochiu, Malay, English

Thai, Chinese, Thai Malay, hill tribes,

refugees from the region

Theravada Buddhism, Mahayana Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Islam, Hinduism, Christianity

Never under foreign rule in modern times

Comparative Data	Thailand	Canada
Area	514,000 sq km	9,976,000 sq km
Population (1983)	49.2 million	24.6 million
Population density	82 persons/km	2.4 persons/km <sup>2</sup>
Urbanization	18%	75%
Population growth rate	10%	7 3 70
(1970–1982)	2.8%	1.2%
Life expectancy at birth	63 years	76 years
Infant mortality rate	53/1000 live births	9/1000
Daily per capita supply as		
% of requirement	103%	129%
Adult literacy rate	86%	99%
Primary school enrolment		
Total	96%	104%
boys	98%	105%
girls	94%	103%
Percentage of labor force in:		
agriculture	76%	5%
industry	9%	29%
services	15%	66%
% of population under 15	43.4%	23.2%
Gross national product per		
capita	\$880 US	\$12,310 US
Average annual growth in GNP		
(1965–1983)	4.3%	2.5%
Average annual inflation rate		
(1973–1983)	8.7%	9.4%
External public debt as % of		
GNP	18%	1.35%
Debt service as % of GNP	2.4%	4.96%
Current account balance	-\$2886 million	\$1380 million
Principal exports	rice, maize, rubber, tapioca, sugar cane	
Principal imports	fuel, non-electrical machinery, base	
D	metals, chemicals, food, beverages	
Principal trading partners	partners Japan, United States, Australia	

Exports to Canada

Imports from Canada

manufactured goods, textiles, tropical fruit and furniture textile/fibres, scrap iron and steel, nickel and alloys, asbestos, sulphur, wood pulp, newsprint, synthetic rubber and plastic, aluminum, industrial machinery, telecommunications equipment.

Source: World Development Report, 1985, World Bank.

#### COUNTRY PROGRAMS

Canada's interest in Thailand dates from Canadian participation in the Indochina Control Commissions and the Colombo Plan in the 1950s. Diplomatic relations were established in 1962 and embassies first opened in 1967. During the 1970s, the Canada-Thailand relationship broadened and strengthened considerably as Thailand gained geostrategic and economic importance. Canada played a major role in response to the refugee crisis in the late 1970s. Thailand is a member of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), of which Canada is a traditional supporter, and there is growing recognition of potential commercial opportunities in both countries.

# BILATERAL ASSISTANCE

In 1982, CIDA intensified its aid program in Thailand, the strategy of which included assisting the Royal Thai Government in the acquisition of technological capabilities necessary for strong public and private sectors, the management of its natural resources, and the alleviation of rural poverty. The designated areas of program concentration were: rural development, human resource development and institution building, and industrial development, concentrating on energy, minerals and trade and investment.

Thailand's own development program to the year 2000 stresses growth with equity; assistance to the eleven million rural poor; a focus on modernization of agricultural production, rural-based small and medium agro-industry, natural resource management, and engineering industries; and, within the coming decade, longer term investments in heavy industry and manufacturing.

The Canadian development assistance program seeks to achieve the following goals:

- to assist Thailand in acquiring the technical capabilities to effectively plan and use private and public capital investment flows for its development goals;
- to assist Thailand to develop and manage its planning, policy formulation and implementing mechanisms for development activities;
- 3) to assist Thailand to develop and manage its natural and human resources for economic growth and income redistribution;
- 4) to strengthen the capacity of governmental, non-governmental and local organizations to promote rural development.

In addition, CIDA is developing a strategy for women in development in Thailand. Its main features are support for indigenous groups active in Thailand, commissioning relevant studies on women's issues by Thai experts in the area, and identifying effective activities for fostering the status of women in Thailand. Emphasis was placed on involvement

with key Thai government policy makers, and experimental approaches to project design, particularly in the area of community development.

The bilateral, or government-to-government, program is developed in concert with the Thai Government, and includes projects in the following sectors: rural development, human resource and institutional development, fishing and mineral resources.

## RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Although its role is gradually declining, agriculture remains of fundamental importance to the economy, accounting in 1983 for 22 per cent of GDP, 46 per cent of exports and over two-thirds of employment for the 85 per cent of the population still living in predominantly agricultural areas.

## CUSO North East Thailand (NET) - Integrated Rural Development

Since 1981, CUSO has been training community workers to help villagers along the Thai-Kampuchean border become more self-reliant. By integrating basic health care, primary and adult education with improved agricultural production and new ways of earning income, the workers are showing villagers that they can improve their standard of living through their own efforts. The current phase of this \$3.1 million project, Phase IV, is funded by a \$1 million contribution in which CUSO is working with 10 local non-governmental organizations and one government agency to carry out the project.

Since the program began, 50 workers have been trained. The workers establish a relationship of trust and cooperation with villagers, and this provides the groundwork for income generating or health related activities such as fish farming, credit schemes, and the manufacturing of water tanks for storage of safe drinking water during the dry season. The community spirit and organizations skills gained from the experience form the basis of long-range planning at the village level. Fifty-two villages of less than 100 households are participating in the project in Surin Province, where large numbers of Thais displaced by border fighting are now living.

Community-Based Integrated Rural Development Project (C-BIRD)
This project is a continuation of the efforts of Thailand's largest
non-governmental organization, the Population and Community Development
Association (PDA), to stimulate self-sustaining development in poor
rural communities. During the next five years, with a \$3 million
contribution from CIDA, PDA will involve 40 villages in northeast
Thailand in its program. Northeast Thailand has the most difficult
development problems in the country: the climate is arid, population
growth is high, malnutrition is widespread and health services are poor.
Of the 14 million people living below the poverty line in Thailand, more
than half live in this part of the country.

PDA now has more than 600 permanent staff working with the rural poor, supplemented by a network of 16,000 volunteers. Its programs require a financial contribution and the cooperation of participants to

demonstrate their commitment. The skills and productive capacities of villagers are enhanced by introducing income-generating activities in agriculture, animal husbandry and cottage industries. In addition, living and health standards are addressed through activities in preventative health care, nutrition and family planning.

# Grass Roots Integrated Development (GRID)

From 1984 to 1989, CIDA is contributing up to \$1.6 million for this project aimed at specific poverty problems with a focus on income-saving and income-generating activities while addressing basic needs in six districts in Thailand's northeast. CUSO is responsible to CIDA for the project, which is being implemented on their behalf by the GRID Project and Appropriate Technology Association, a registered Thai NGO. Establishing and maintaining self-reliant community-based organizations and processes for implementing development projects and services are objectives of the project, with the Thai NGO acting as an intermediary in improving the interface between the villagers and local government officials.

# Development of People's Organizations

In this country focus project (a bilateral project administered by a non-governmental organization), the Thai Community Development Department is decentralizing the decision-making process in rural development to the village level by actively involving the villages in the identification, planning and execution of projects best responding to their needs. The project involves the creation and fostering of people's organizations in the villages. CIDA is providing \$4.6 million to the Coady International Institute of St. Francis Xavier University to act as executing agency. The funds will be used for training, institutional and development activity support, administration by Coady and project evaluation.

#### Rural Development Advisor

CIDA is providing a contribution of \$5.0 million over 3 years for the services of a Rural Development Advisor to assist the Community Development Department at the strategic level in the alleviation of rural poverty. The advisor will integrate the successful techniques of the Development of People's Organizations project and of other projects into new and ongoing projects of other government departments, NGOs, the King's projects and the projects of other organizations engaged in rural development.

# UNICEF Integrated Services Project

To reduce absolute poverty in the Northeast and to meet basic needs of women and children, this project provides funds for equipment, services, supplies and training in areas of primary health care, immunization, food and nutrition, water and sanitation, economic activities and child development. The project, totalling \$8 million in CIDA funds in

addition to contributions from the Canadian UNICEF Committee, will run from 1984 to 1988. It is in support of the Royal Thai Government/UNICEF Thailand program to establish and strengthen the delivery of local government services and to create processes in rural communities leading to self-reliance.

# Local Development Assistance Program Project

This project aims to utilize and strengthen the capacity of Thai NGOs and other agencies to participate in Thailand's development effort and to contribute to the effective delivery of CIDA's country program. Thai NGOs and other institutions are assisted to initiate and implement small and medium size multi-year projects having a social development emphasis at the grass-roots level, particularly in the rural development sector, mainly in the northeast. Project funding will be administered by the Canadian Embassy in Thailand and the budget is \$5 million.

# YMCA Rural Education and Socio-Economic Development Program (RESDP)

To foster community-based self-reliance among the rural poor of northern Thailand, this project, which will be implemented by the YMCA of the Chieng Mai area, will strengthen the capacity of women to participate actively in community decision-making and to increase their use of available local resources. Activities in the first year include: training of up to 600 potential women leaders in development leadership, management and organization building; training of 100 child-care workers who will take a leadership role in establishing child care centres in rural villages; the establishment of a \$20,000 fund to provide training support for very small-scale, village-level projects.

Later, vocational training, consultancy for small enterprises, and an information centre for local NGOs will also be provided. This project will cost a total of \$1.6 million; the Canadian YMCA will provide over \$100,000 and CIDA will provide \$998,000. The balance will be provided by the local YMCA in services, and for the establishment of a revolving loan fund of \$50,000 to support more ambitious small-scale enterprise and village development projects.

#### THE MODERN SECTOR

Although experiencing temporary debt servicing problems, Thailand's economy is basically healthy, with good long-term growth prospects. It is an open economy, poised at the jumping-off point to newly-indust-rialized status, and CIDA's goals in this sector are to assist Thailand in this transition and to build a basis for an enhanced Canada/Thai economic relationship. Specifically, CIDA will

- \* assist Thailand to acquire the necessary technology and expertise to support its priorities in agroprocessing, engineering, energy and natural resource based industries;
- \* support the human resource development priorities to meet requirements in the Northeast regional and national economies, with special attention to education and training for women;

\* assist in the development and implementation of programs to develop and strengthen rural and regional economies; and

\* stimulate additional flows of Canadian capital, technology and expertise to Thailand through lines of credit and other financial or development institutions.

# CIDA/EDC Associated Financing Facility

This facility provides a line of credit (LOC) of \$20 million, of which CIDA is providing \$5 million, over a period of three years. It will support the purchase of Canadian goods and services by private, public and parapublic corporations in Thailand. Purchases will be made in the priority areas of agroprocessing, engineering, energy and natural resource based industries and their development impact will be assessed in terms of employment generation, development of Thai export potential, contribution to decentralization and regional focus, technology transfer, and potential for joint ventures. This will allow Thailand, which is short on foreign exchange, to continue to develop its economy, while at the same time enhancing business relations between Canada and Thailand. A counterpart fund will also be established to support local rural development and rural industrial initiatives.

# FISHERIES

There are two major ongoing projects in this sector. The Thailand Fisheries Development Program, budgeted at \$500,000, aims to improve the real income and standard of living of small-scale fishermen through rational development of fisheries activities. The project has provided artificial reefs and a breakwater, cage culture has been introduced, and the services provided by the village fishermen's group have been strengthened. The Northeast Fisheries Project, funded by a contribution of up to \$7.9 million from CIDA, will run from 1986-90. Its aim is to increase nutritional levels and incomes of villagers in the northeast by increasing fresh-water fish production. Development of the Department of Fisheries as an institution serving the region, both in technical operations and in extension services, is an objective of the project.

#### MINERAL RESOURCES

#### Development of Mineral Resources Project

Under an agreement with the Thai Government, CIDA is providing \$10.7 million in contribution funds to assist the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) with the implementation of a major Mineral Resources Project. In parallel with the CIDA contribution, the Asian Development Bank provided a loan of US\$39 million for the conduct of a country-wide airborne geological survey, the construction of buildings and the purchase of equipment. The conduct of the airborne survey was opened to international competitive bidding, and the \$25 million contract was awarded to Kenting Earth Sciences of Ottawa by DMR. The CIDA contribution is designed to assist DMR through the provision of geo-science specialists in the organization of long and short-term

training programs; review/revision of mineral legislation and mineral taxation to encourage investment; ground exploration work; and, through Geological Survey of Canada, monitoring of the airborne survey and compilation of the maps.

## HUMAN RESOURCE AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

# Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI)

At the request of the National Economic and Social Development Board of Thailand, CIDA is helping Thailand to set up a non-governmental institute to foster and coordinate socio-economic policy research and make the public more aware of key public policy issues. An autonomous institute for policy research, it is funded by the Thai government and national and international donations and governed by a Board of Governors representative of various interest groups. CIDA's \$5 million contribution will provide office rental and equipment, salaries, travel, legal fees and a Canadian advisor. An endowment fund will also be established to enable the institute to be self-financing at project completion.

#### Institutional Linkages Program

The objectives of this project are to strengthen the capability of Thai universities to contribute to the development of Thailand and to improve the knowledge and understanding in Canada concerning Thailand, its development priorities and possible opportunities for future cooperation. The program fosters institutional linkages in areas of mutual benefit to Canadian and Thai institutions, developing a series of linkage arrangements between universities in priority areas of energy, natural resource development, institution building and community development. Approximately 20 linkages are anticipated for the period 1985-1990 with a CIDA contribution of up to \$8 million.

# Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation (DTEC) Institutional Development Project

This project is intended to strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of planning, coordination and management of technical assistance and grants by DTEC. A Canadian contribution of \$2.29 million will provide for a senior advisor in organization, management and systems; other consultants for specific components; equipment and training. The project assists DTEC to operationalize a broad reorganization plan, to prepare specific technical assistance plans linked to development needs, to establish systems and procedures within DTEC to improve its management role concerning technical assistance and grant flows, and to provide appropriate training for DTEC officials.

Assistance to the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB) A number of institution-building initiatives have been undertaken in cooperation with the NESDB. A Manpower-Employment Information System Project will produce a feasibility study and present alternative designs for a statistical information system combining existing data bases. A Loan Monitoring and Evaluation Project is assisting the NESDB to strengthen its capabilities in sectoral, program and project evaluation,

to institute the ability to monitor loan project implementation, and to strengthen its capacity to integrate monitoring and evaluation results into the planning process. The project will establish a monitoring unit based on a computerized information system and an evaluation unit focused on high priority sectors. A Sixth Plan Monitoring System will assist Thailand in the development of an effective management system for the monitoring of the Plan. A part-time advisor will develop and implement a system and train NESDB personnel in its use.

#### Educational Institutions

The Rattanakosin Scholarship Project provides funding for Thai nationals to undertake graduate and postgraduate programs of study in Canada. Training addresses human resources constraints in the fields of energy and mineral development, planning and management, and rural development. Approximately eighty graduate and post-graduate scholarships will be funded over the years 1982-89, in a two-phased approach, with a CIDA contribution of \$5 million.

The Khon Kaen University Research and Development Institute Project was undertaken in order to enhance delivery of development benefits to the rural poor of the northeastern region. CIDA is providing up to \$5.53 million to this project. Its objectives are to improve the capacity of the RDI to promote, support and coordinate rural development activities in the region and to establish the RDI as a self-sustaining institution.

# OTHER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

#### Landsat

CIDA is contributing a \$5 million grant to upgrade Thailand's Landsat satellite ground station to enable reception of data from the newly-launched NASA Landsat 4 satellite. Hardware and software, as well as training and associated services, will be provided, in addition to technical assistance, training, equipment and a number of demonstration projects related to the application of Landsat imagery by Thai agencies and institutions. The data can be applied effectively in key sectors such as forestry, agriculture, water resources, oceanography, land use and mapping. A Canadian consultant will work with the National Research Council of Thailand during the next two years to promote such applications. The success of the project may well lead to an enhanced Canadian/Thai partnership in the high-tech area.

# NESDB Energy Technical Assistance

This project provided a senior level energy sector planning specialist and other Canadian consultant services as required, and local Thai consultants in selected areas of expertise. The objectives of the project were to assist the Thai government in maximizing the benefits of Thailand's energy resources and in developing an energy strategy and investment program. Comprehensive analyses of energy demand, supply and pricing were undertaken, resulting in energy policy and program recommendations concerning an energy strategy and investment program.

# Mission Administered Funds (MAF)

This \$350,000 annual fund for small projects is adminstered by the Canadian Embassy in Bangkok. The projects, usually initiated by community groups and voluntary organizations, provide economic, technical or social development assistance.

#### BUSINESS COOPERATION

Thailand has considerable market potential for Canadian products and the Thais have a prime interest in Canadian technology. The main areas of trade interest are electrical power/transmission equipment, communications, mining and metallurgy, construction equipment and pulp and paper. Canada imports manufactured goods, textiles, tropical fruit and furniture from Thailand.

# Industrial Cooperation Division

CIDA's Industrial Cooperation Program is also active in Thailand, having undertaken project identification missions in the electronics, transportation and aviation offset sectors. As a result of these studies, two electronics/hi-tech missions (involving 10 companies) travelled to Thailand in 1983 and in early 1984, several Canadian manufacturers and consulting firms in the aviation sector became involved in industrial projects in Thailand. A transportation mission (railway and automotive) also took place in the spring of 1984. Another Canadian firm will soon complete a domestic containerization and railway transportation study for the State Railway of Thailand.

In the energy sector, Canadian firms are assisting in the development of Thailand's off-shore and on-shore gas resources and helping in the preparation of hydroelectric prefeasibility studies.

CIDA also provided support for 30 Canadian manufacturers in the agroindustry, telecommunications and light manufacturing sectors to attend Can-Thai '84, a technology exchange exhibition, in Bangkok in May 1984.

#### ASSISTANCE FROM SPECIAL PROGRAMS BRANCH

CIDA's collaboration with non-governmental organizations began in 1968, and has since expanded to include diverse activities sponsored by many different types of groups and institutions. The Special Programs Branch contributes to development cooperation projects initiated by voluntary organizations and non-profit institutions which cooperate with their counterparts in developing countries. Most programs in the Branch provide funds which "match" or enhance contributions in cash and in services by the participants in Canada and in the developing country, so that the value of a project is often much greater than the CIDA funding amount suggests.

CIDA contributions to non-governmental projects in Thailand reached approximately \$430,000 for 25 projects during 1984-85. The primary emphasis has been on community-based rural development: for example, providing clean water, sanitation facilities and basic health services; training and education programs, including some specifically for women, youth or displaced persons; and support for cooperatives and other means of generating income. The following are examples of the types of projects receiving funding from the Special Programs Branch.

NGO Program

The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP) is supporting projects in social action, worker education, community health, education for rural women and a grassroots micromedia promotion program; World Vision has a number of community development and leadership training projects, as well as training for volunteer village health workers; YMCA Canada has projects in refugee and famine relief, community health, community development and training for slum dwellers; various youth programs, and a solar drying project; YWCA Canada is offering the following projects for women: an antiprostitution program, nutrition and cooking for rural women, vocational skills training and a special program for female prisoners. Other NGOs active in Thailand include the Anglican Church of Canada, The Canadian Society of the Red Cross, the Canadian UNICEF Committee, Cardinal Leger et ses Oeuvres, Fondation Internationale Roncalli, Foster Parents Plan, Hunter Group, Match International Centre, the Interchurch Fund for International Development, the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, Planned Parenthood Federation, the Rotary Club of Guelph and the World Relief Committee of Canada.

# Institutional Cooperation and Development Services Division (ICDS)

This program enables CIDA to support joint ventures by Canadian and Thai institutions such as universities, colleges, unions, cooperatives, and professional associations. It also provides funds for cooperant-sending agencies.

Among the Canadian institutions receiving CIDA support in 1984-85 are the Addiction Research Foundation, which has a community development program with hill tribes; the Canadian Home Economics Association, which has developed a home economics training package; the Cooperative Development Foundation, which is engaged in credit union promotion; Manitoba University, which is assisting Khon Kaen University's engineering faculty; and the University of British Columbia, which has a petroleum development program in Thailand.

International NGO Program (INGO)

Through INGO, CIDA offers support to internationally-based organizations whose programs often span many countries. Some of these provide financial support to member organizations for their national activities; an example is the International Planned Parenthood Federation. In addition, the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research is providing training programs and World University Services International is providing training in

committee development.

#### REGIONAL ASSISTANCE

As a member of ASEAN, Thailand also benefits from a number of regional projects, among which are: support to the ASEAN-Canada Tree Seed Centre which will help in the reforestation of valuable tropical hardwoods such as teak and mahogany, which have been depleted due to shifting cultivation, fire and illegal cutting; the ASEAN-Canada Post-Harvest Fish Technology project, which aims to reduce post-harvest losses (estimated at 20 per cent of the catch), enhance fishing production and increase the supply of protein in the diet of the local populations; and the ASEAN-Canada Human Resources Development Program, which will establish six training centres throughout ASEAN countries. Each centre will deal with a specific subject area, including tropical biology, forest ecology, marine biology, pest control, tropical medicine, education, science and mathematics and languages.

#### OTHER FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

# The International Development Research Centre (IDRC):

CIDA has a number of cooperative arrangements with the IDRC in Thailand. At the project level, the IDRC is involved in providing components of projects in the information science field, and has designed the evaluation framework for the Community-Based Integrated Rural Development Project (CBIRD). At the program level, discussions have been held with the IDRC to cooperate in formulating, with Thai institutions, evaluation techniques for comparing social development projects, and for identifying indicators for technical assistance and institution-building. CIDA's Northeast Fisheries Project will apply IDRC research findings in its extention component.

IDRC-funded projects with a total value of nearly \$11 million, include the development of new or additional food sources such as milk-fish; post-harvest technology for such crops as fruits, vegetables, peanuts, soybeans, cropping systems, alternative energy sources, water supply and sanitation, health and family planning and resource management.

## Petro-Canada International Assistance Corporation (PCIAC);

PCIAC has two contracts with the Petroleum Authority of Thailand for seismic soundings in the Gulf of Thailand. Preliminary discussions have been held with PCIAC on possible joint programming with CIDA in the energy sector. In May, 1983, PCI signed an agreement with the government of Thailand to provide \$8 million in offshore oil and gas exploration in the Gulf of Thailand.

#### MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE

Multilateral assistance involves the pooling of resources by donor countries which are members of international organizations like the

World Bank, the regional development banks, and the various agencies of the United Nations and so on. These organizations then use these resources in support of development projects in Third World countries.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) provides basic health care, primary education and rural development in Thailand. CIDA's contribution in 1984-85 to UNICEF's general resources amounted to \$28 million. The total value of the UNICEF program in Thailand from 1982-86 will be U.S. \$19.668 million, with the allocation for 1984 at U.S. \$3.3 million. Projects included the training of full-time paramedics to serve in rural health centres, and a training program in pre- and post-natal care for traditional birth attendants.

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) provided technical assistance in Thailand for a total of U.S. \$4.143 million in 1984. In 1984-85, CIDA's contribution to the UNDP was \$59 million. The UNDP Thailand country program concentrates on rural development, overty alleviation, agrarian reform, educational broadcasting, promotion of Thai exports and development of energy resources.

The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) provides assistance in family planning and related training programs in Thailand. Expenditures in 1984 were US \$1.9 million, with projects in improvement in the quality of contraceptive use of those practicing family planning, and the promotion of family planning acceptance. CIDA's contribution to the UNFPA in 1983-84 was \$10.25 million.

The International Trade Centre spent a total of US \$50,000 in 1984 through the provision of an Associate Expert in order to develop an integrated approach to trade promotion.

Through its International Humanitarian Assistance (IHA) program, CIDA has been contributing to emergency relief for refugees along the Thai-Kampuchean border since 1979. Approximately 50,000 refugees are living in camps operated by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and an additional 250,000 refugees are living along the border. The numbers have now stabilized, and represent a considerable reduction from the 800,000 refugees living in the area in 1979. In 1984-85, CIDA contributed \$3.4 million to the UNHCR, the International Committee for the Red Cross and the UN Border Relief Operation, which coordinates efforts in the area. Two grants totalling \$260,000 were also made to the UNHCR for the anti-piracy campaign in 1984. In 1985, the UNHCR spent approximately US \$23.1 million for relief programs in Thailand. Canadian contributions included \$900,000 for relief of refugees at the Thai-Kampuchean border; \$100,000 for Laotian refugees; and \$100,000 for the anti-piracy campaign in 1985. Canadian contributions to the Red Cross in 1985 were \$700,000.

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) mobilizes additional resources on concessional terms for the expansion and improvement of food production systems, with special emphasis on small farmers and landless labourers in developing countries. IFAD has provided a contribution of US \$11.4 million for agricultural research in 1980 and one of US \$ 18.75 million as agricultural credit in 1983.

Canada has issued notes totalling \$42 million to IFAD over the 1980-81 to 1984-85 period.

Multilateral Development Banks

The Asian Development Bank disbursed US\$195.2 million in Thailand during calendar year 1984. Priority sectors for the ADB's program in Thailand include: energy, agricultural and agro-industry, promotion of private sector activities and provision of basic infrastructure facilities. A loan to the Mae Moh Power Project will support the use of indigenous lignite as fuel to help increase generation capacity for future demands, and a loan for the Rural Telecommunications Project will support the provision of basic telephone services to selected rural areas. Canada's contributions to the ADB over the period 1983-84 to 1985-86 total \$92 million annually.

In 1985, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) of the World Bank approved a US \$27.5 million loan for an urban development project which will promote economic development in three of the poorest of Thailand's six regions. A loan of US \$85 million will support the restructuring of the Bangkok Oil Refinery. The International Financial Corporation affiliate of the IBRD has provided US \$ 224,319 for 14 projects in Thailand. Total expenditures for ongoing projects in Thailand for 1984-85 were US \$156.4 million. Canada holds 3.7 per cent of the capital stock of the IBRD, having paid in US\$189 million.

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